

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 26, 43 and 54-58. Please amend Claims 25, 30, 42 and 47. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

- 1-24. (Canceled)
25. (Currently Amended) An isolated neurotrophic peptide consisting of , ~~comprising~~ the amino acid sequence of peptide C14 (SEQ ID NO:14) or ~~a neurotrophic variant of SEQ ID NO:14, wherein said neurotrophic variant~~ an amino acid sequence that has at least 90% amino acid sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:14, ~~with the proviso that said isolated neurotrophic peptide is not SEQ ID NO:34.~~
26. (Canceled)
27. (Previously presented) A composition, comprising the isolated neurotrophic peptide of Claim 25 and a physiologically acceptable carrier.
28. (Original) The composition of Claim 27, further comprising a mammalian neurotrophic factor.
29. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 28, wherein said mammalian neurotrophic factor is ciliary neurotrophic factor (CNTF) or leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF).
30. (Currently amended) A fusion protein consisting of the amino acid sequence of peptide C14 (SEQ ID NO:14) or an amino acid sequence that has at least 90% amino acid sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:14, ~~comprising the isolated neurotrophic peptide of Claim 25~~ and a fusion partner.
31. (Original) The fusion protein of Claim 30, wherein said fusion partner is a mammalian neurotrophic factor.

32. (Previously presented) The fusion protein of Claim 31, wherein said neurotrophic factor is ciliary neurotrophic factor (CNTF) or leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF).
33. (Original) A composition, comprising the fusion protein of Claim 30 and a physiologically acceptable carrier.
- 34-41. (Canceled)
42. (Currently amended) ~~[[The]]~~ An isolated neurotrophic peptide consisting of Claim 25, ~~wherein said peptide comprises~~ an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:12 and SEQ ID NO:13.
43. (Canceled)
44. (Previously presented) A composition, comprising the isolated neurotrophic peptide of Claim 42 and a physiologically acceptable carrier.
45. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 44, further comprising a mammalian neurotrophic factor.
46. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 45, wherein said mammalian neurotrophic factor is ciliary neurotrophic factor (CNTF) or leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF).
47. (Currently amended) A fusion protein consisting of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:12 and SEQ ID NO:13 and ~~, comprising the isolated neurotrophic peptide of Claim 42 and~~ a fusion partner.
48. (Previously presented) The fusion protein of Claim 47, wherein said fusion partner is a mammalian neurotrophic factor.

49. (Previously presented) The fusion protein of Claim 48, wherein said mammalian neurotrophic factor is ciliary neurotrophic factor (CNTF) or leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF).
50. (Previously presented) A composition, comprising the fusion protein of Claim 47 and a physiologically acceptable carrier.
51. (Previously presented) A composition, comprising the isolated neurotrophic peptide of Claim 26 and a physiologically acceptable carrier.
52. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 51, further comprising a mammalian neurotrophic factor.
53. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 52, wherein said mammalian neurotrophic factor is ciliary neurotrophic factor (CNTF) or leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF).
- 54-58. (Canceled)